

Erica Bruck, a pediatrician whose life was saved by Turkey in 1934, left Istanbul for the United States in 1939 for a number of reasons. One of these was to make it possible for the growing Steinitz family to have the full Assistant's stipend—she had been living on half. In America, Dr. Bruck enjoyed a brilliant medical career, serving as a pediatrician at the Children's Hospital of Buffalo for fifty years. She published many seminal research articles, such as the “Renal Functions in the Course of the Nephrotic Syndrome in Children” published in the *Journal of Clinical Investigations* in 1954.” Another was the paper on the “Perfusion of the Underventilated Compartment of the Lungs in Asthmatic Children,” published in the same journal in 1964. During the course of her life in Buffalo New York, she was very active in many causes affecting children worldwide, including the initiative to ban land mines and constant work to assure equitable housing opportunities as in the membership-based nationally recognized civil rights organization called HOME. Her life was saved in 1934 by Professor Frank's ability to invite her out of a Nazi hell and Kurt Steinitz's willingness to share the one-person Assistantship billet at Istanbul University.

It is difficult to contemplate the number of lives Erica Bruck affected while serving as pediatrician at Buffalo's Children's Hospital for fifty years. It is also mind-boggling to consider her impact on the health of children everywhere and forever as the result of her published research, most of which was based on clinical studies. And if that were not enough, as a member of the *National [US] Committee for Clinical Laboratory Standards*, Erica Bruck coauthored at least six procedure manuals on collection of blood for diagnostic purposes, which continue to set the standards for today's medicine.

It is interesting to note that Howard Faden, M.D. and Linda Duffy, Ph.D., from the Department of Pediatrics, *State University of New York*, School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences and Margot Boeve, from the *Ryksuniversiteit Groningen*, Groningen, of the Netherlands conclude their 1998 article “Otitis media: back to basics” which appeared in the *Pediatric Infectious Disease Journal*¹ with: “We dedicate this article to Dr. Erika Bruck on her ninetieth birthday. Dr. Bruck served as a pediatrician at the Children's Hospital of Buffalo for 50 years.

When contacted about the dedication, Howard Faden, M.D. stated, “She was among the most astute faculty we had. A great physician and I use the term

‘great’ rarely. When others could not figure out the diagnosis, they invariably turned to Erica.”

***Couertesy of TURKEY'S MODERNIZATION:
Refugees from Nazism and Ataturk's Vision.***

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